

(d) if so, the recommendations made and decisions taken by Government thereon; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and anticipated time by which the same are to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Committee's Report could not be finalized due to lack of unanimity amongst members of the Committee. While, the Government has initiated steps to narrow down these differences, given the level of divergence in the respective stands taken by different members of the Committee, it is not possible to specify the time by which the Report will be finalized.

Report of Court of Enquiry regarding disbursement of salary to fictitious employees

1090. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Court of Enquiry set up by Government into disbursement of salary in the name of fictitious employees in 50S Army Base Workshop in Delhi Cantt. has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken in this regard;

(c) the details of amount involved in this episode; and

(d) how Government propose to recover the money?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Court of Inquiry has found two Group *C Non-Gazetted officials blameworthy for the misappropriation of Government funds/ lack of supervision. Disciplinary proceedings against these employees have been initiated.

(c) Total amount disbursed to fictitious employees is Rs. 1,59,983.

(d) Necessary action to recover the amount will be taken on finalisation of ongoing disciplinary proceedings.

Maintenance of forts in Gujarat

1091. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) name of organisations /authorities who control and maintain forts in Gujarat;

(b) the authority which controls and maintains the temples constructed inside the forts;

(c) whether any temple inside the forts has been demolished;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether there is encroachment on the forts land; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to evict them from the clutches of unauthorised encroachers?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The forts in Gujarat are controlled and maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India, the Gujarat Government, and the Army authorities. The forts of defence land are under the control of the Army authorities.

(b) and (d) Temples located inside forts under the charge of Army/ Archaeological Survey of India are maintained by them or by the concerned temple trusts. No temple within the forts under the control of the Army authorities has been demolished. However, the temple in Bhuj fort was partially damaged due to earthquake on 26th January, 2001.

(e) and (f) Some encroachments have taken place in Ahmedabad and Pavagadh forts under the control of the Army/Archaeological Survey of India. They have taken steps for removal of the encroachments under due process of Law. The information about the forts under the control of the State Government is not available.